



NFWF SUPPROT FOR LAND CONSERVATION IN VIRGINIA
Virginia's United Land Trusts
February 6, 2023

WHO IS “NFWF”?

Who We Are

- Chartered by Congress in 1984
- Independent 501(c)(3) organization
- 30-member Board appointed by Sec. of the DOI
 - Includes FWS Dir. and NOAA Adm.

What We Do

- Sustain, restore and enhance the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats for current and future generations
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies and private sector

How We Do It

- Leverage public funding with private money – average 3:1



NFWF is

- An implementer – we fund projects

NFWF is not

- An advocacy organization that engages in lobbying or litigation



HOW WE WORK



NFWF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN VIRGINIA

Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

- Innovative Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Grants
- Small Watershed Grants
- Chesapeake WILD Grants

National Programs

- Acres for America
- American the Beautiful Challenge
- National Coastal Resilience Fund



SMALL WATERSHED GRANTS

- Delivered in partnership with **EPA** and the **Chesapeake Bay Program**

SWG Program Priorities

1. Managing **Agricultural and Urban Runoff**
2. Improving Water Quality and **Stream Health** Through Riparian Restoration and Conservation
3. Enhancing and Protecting **Freshwater Habitat for Eastern Brook Trout**
4. Enhancing and Protecting **Tidal and Estuarine Habitat**
5. Enhancing **Nature-Based Resilience** for Human Communities
6. Building Capacity for Landscape-Scale Watershed and Habitat Planning, Design, and Implementation



CHESAPEAKE WILD GRANTS

- Delivered in partnership with **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**, informed by [FWS's Chesapeake WILD Framework](#)

WILD Program Pillars

1. Fish and Wildlife Habitats
2. Climate Change
3. Community Partnership
4. Public Access
5. Water Quality



CHESAPEAKE BAY STEWARDSHIP FUND – PROGRAM COMPARISON

	INSR	SWG	WILD
Intended Outcome(s)	Nutrient and sediment load reduction	Addressing <i>2014 CB Watershed Agreement</i> goals and outcomes	Addressing WILD Framework
Annual Program Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP Release: August • Proposals Due: November • Award: March 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP Release: February • Proposals Due: April • Award: August 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RFP Release: February • Proposals Due: April • Award: August
Available Funding and Award Range	~\$20M (ann.) \$500,000 – \$1M	~\$25M (ann.) \$0 – \$500,000	~\$8-14M (ann.) \$0 – \$750,000
Match Requirements	1:1 (Non-Federal)	Encouraged, not required	1:1 (Up to half Federal, Non-DOI)
Applicant Eligibility	State, local, Tribal gov't; Universities; Non-profits	Local and Tribal gov't; Non-profits	State, local, Tribal gov't; Universities; Non-profits
Eligibility for Land Conservation	Incidental to on-site WQ improvement; Transaction costs only	Alignment with program priorities; Transaction costs only	Alignment with program priorities; Transaction and acquisition/easement costs

ACRES FOR AMERICA

- NFWF's marquee national land conservation program, delivered in partnership with Walmart
- Extremely competitive national program – 4-8 projects funded annually

ATBC Program Priorities

- Project Scale and Program Priorities
 - Protect Critical Fish and Wildlife Species
 - Expand Wildlife Connectivity
 - Expand Public Access to Nature
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- Benefit Local Economies
 - Provide a Range of Ecological Services
 - Under Threat of Conversion



AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL CHALLENGE

- Delivered in partnership with **DOI, DOD, U.S. Forest Service, and NRCS**
- Extremely competitive national program – <10% of proposals awarded

ATBC Program Priorities

- Benefit At-Risk Fish, Wildlife, and Plant Species
- Expand Habitat Connectivity
- Provide a Range of Ecosystem Services
- Strengthen Ecosystem and Community Resilience
- Expand Public and Community Access to Nature
- Engage Local Communities
- Support Tribally Led Conservation and Restoration Priorities
- Contribute to Local or Tribal Economies
- Contribute to Workforce Development



NFWF

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL CHALLENGE – GRANT CATERGORIES

- **States, Territories, and Tribal Implementation Grants**
Grants ranging from \$1 million to \$5 million; Non-federal match encouraged, but not required
- **Planning, Collaboration and Engagement for States, Territories and Tribes**
Grants of \$200,000 to \$1,000,000; Non-federal match encouraged, but not required
- **Grants to Buffer and Benefit Public Lands (i.e., DOD, NFS)***
Grants ranging from \$250,000 to \$1.5 million; 10-20% Non-federal match
- **Private Forests, Rangeland and Farmland Grants***
Grants ranging from \$200,000 to \$500,000 (aligned with NRCS Working Lands for Wildlife); 1:1 Non-federal match

***Nonprofits eligible**

NATIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE FUND

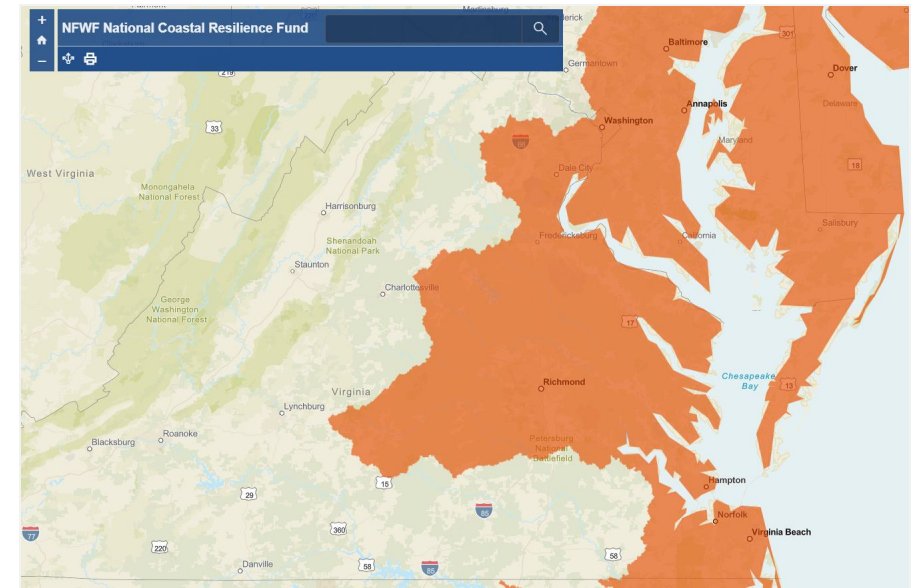
- Delivered in partnership with **NOAA**, **DOD**, and private funding partners
- Targets all coastal HUC-8 watersheds that drain to the sea and any adjacent HUC 8 watersheds that are particularly low-lying or tidally influenced

Primary NCRF Program Priorities

- Nature-Based Solutions
- Community Resilience Benefit
- Fish and Wildlife Benefit

Additional NCRF Program Priorities

- Community Impact and Engagement
- Innovation, Transferability, and Sustainability



NATIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCE FUND – PROJECT CATEGORIES

Community Capacity Build and Planning

Grants ranging from \$100,000 – \$1 million

Site Assessment and Preliminary Design

Grants ranging from \$100,000 – \$1 million

Final Design and Permitting

Grants ranging from \$100,000 – \$1 million

Restoration Implementation

Grants ranging from \$1 million – \$10 million

Non-federal match encouraged for all NCRF proposals

PROJECT CASE STUDY

Program: INSR

Awardee: Alliance for the Shenandoah Valley

Project Title: Scaling Up Agricultural Best Practices Through the Shenandoah Valley Conservation Collaborative (VA)

Award Amount: \$996,620

Match/Leverage Amount: \$3,645,538

- DCR (VACS)
- VA Battlefield Preservation Grants
- American Battlefield Protection Program
- VA Land Conservation Fund



PROJECT CASE STUDY

Program: SWG

Awardee: Piedmont Environmental Council

Project Title: Installing and Restoring
Riparian Buffers in the Upper Rappahannock
and Potomac watersheds (VA)

Award Amount: \$263,802

Match/Leverage Amount: \$188,138

- Private foundations
- Conservation Legacy-Appalachian Conservation Corps



PROJECT CASE STUDY

Program: WILD

Awardee: West Virginia Land Trust

Project Title: Restoring James Spiny mussel
Along Potts Creek (WV)

Award Amount: \$499,824

Match/Leverage Amount: \$296,825

- FWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife*
- WV DNR
- In-kind design/engineering services



PROJECT CASE STUDY

Program: Acres for America

Awardee: Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia

Project Title: Conserving Indigenous Rappahannock Ancestral Lands at Fones Cliffs on the Rappahannock River (VA)

Award Amount: \$500,000

Match/Leverage Amount: \$3,500,000

- Private donors (via Chesapeake Conservancy capital gift)



ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Chesapeake Bay Stewardship Fund

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/chesapeake-bay-stewardship-fund>

Acres for American

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/acres-america>

America the Beautiful Challenge

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/america-beautiful-challenge>

National Coastal Resilience Fund

<https://www.nfwf.org/programs/national-coastal-resilience-fund>

FOR QUESTIONS AND PROJECT/PROPOSAL CONSULTATIONS



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